

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-11

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAM-01 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-10 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /133 W

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R 301750Z JAN 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3791

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

CINCUSAFE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0473

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/80

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR: SUB-GROUP ON TACTICAL AIR (SGTA)

REFS: A. AC/276-WP(74)1

B. USNATO 0208

SUMMARY: CHAIRMAN OF THE SUB-GROUP HAS EXPRESSED HIS VIEWS ON INCORPORATING SHAPE PROPOSALS INTO THE SUB-GROUP'S REPORT. A SPEAKING NOTE BY FRG MEMBER OF SUB-GROUP ON TACTICAL AIR OUTLINES FRG SUPPORT FOR THESE PROPOSALS. WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON BOTH NEEDED FOR RESPONSE. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING RECENT ORAL PROGRESS REPORT TO MBFR WORKING GROUP (REF A, POUCHED), CHAIRMAN SGTA AGAIN EXPRESSED DESIRE FOR US VIEWS ON STAFF GROUP PROPOSAL FOR TREATING EXCURSIONS TO THE BASE CASE ANALYSIS IN COMBINATION WHILE MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY OF THE BASE CASE AIR CAMPAIGN (REF B).

2. IN RELATED ACTION, FRG REP SAID ON JANUARY 29 THAT
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BONN HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TO PASS TO US SGTA REP INFORMAL COPY OF A SPEAKING NOTE OUTLINING GERMAN SUPPORT OF SHAPE PROPOSALS PRESENTED AT LAST SGTA MEETING. TEXT OF NOTE FOLLOWS: QUOTE: THE DISCUSSION OF POSSIBILITIES AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE REDUCTION OF TACTICAL AIR-

CRAFT WAS INITIATED ON THE BASIS OF ASSUMPTIONS WHICH MY AUTHORITIES AND OTHER MEMBERS OF SGTA CONSIDER TO BE UNREALISTIC.

"THE AMENDMENTS SUGGESTED BY SHAPE TO THE SEENARIOS AND PARAMETERS OF THE 'BASE CASE' WOULD, WE FEEL, WIDEN THE SPECTRUM OF ANALYSIS AND THUS BE MORE REALISTIC.

"THERE ARE ALREADY CERTAIN RESERVATIONS TO THE BASE CASE CONTAINED IN THE WORKING PAPER AC/276(SGTA)-N/18(2ND REVISE). THEY COULD, HOWEVER, NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE ANALYSIS, SINCE THE NECESSARY DATA AND ASSUMPTIONS WERE STILL MISSING.

"WE WOULD WELCOME IF THE CHANGES TO THE SCENARIO AND PARAMETERS SUGGESTED BY SHAPE COULD BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION, SINCE IT IS FELT THAT WITHOUT THEIR INCLUSION NO REALISTIC RESULTS CAN BE EXPECTED. END QUOTE. COMMENT: IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, FRG REP SAID SUB-GROUP SHOULD DECIDE HOW TO INCORPORATE THE SHAPE PROPOSALS INTO THE REPOT. HOWEVER, HE DID REITERATE THE FRG CONCERN ABOUT ANY REDUCTION OF CLOSE AIR SUPPORT AND INTERDICTION CAPABILITY AND ESPECIALLY THE REDUCTION OF DUAL CAPABLE FIGHTER AIRCRAFT. FRG REP'S ACTION CLEARLY INDICATES BONN'S INTEREST IN HASTENING A US RESPONSE TO ISSUES IDENTIFIED IN SGTA CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, AND PREVIOUS SGTA MEETING. END COMMENT.

3. REQUEST WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON RESPONSE TO STAFF GROUP (IMS) PROPOSAL AND FRG NOTE. RUMSFELD

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO00473
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS 12/31/80
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740173/abbrysl.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. AC/276-WP(74)1 B. USNATO 0208
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <26-Aug-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: SUB-GROUP ON TACTICAL AIR (SGTA)
TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT
CINCUSAFE
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005